MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

OF THE

Liberty Baptist Association,

HELD AT

LICK CREEK MEETING HOUSE, DAVIDSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,

AUGUST 23D, 24TH, AND 26TH, 1861.

SALISBURY, N. C.

J. J. STEWART, PRINTER.

1861.

THE FLOWERS COLLECTION

MINUTES.

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Lick Creek Meeting House, Davidson County, N. C., }
Friday, August 23d, 1861 }

The members of the Liberty Association, met according to adjournment. The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder J. B. Jackson, from II. Corinthians, 6th chap. 1 verse: We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

1. After a short intermission, the members met again. The Association was called to order by Elder A. Kinney, in the absence of the Moderator. Religious service by Elder A. Kinney. Letters handed in; contents noted. (See last page.)

2. The delegates proceeded to elect a Moderator for the present term, which resulted in the choice of J. B. Jackson

3. On motion, appointed Wm. R. Coggin, Elders Wm. H. Hamner, A. Kinney, with Moderator and Clerk, a committee of arrangements.

4. On motion, appointed S. Newsom and J. H. Owen, a Committee of Finance.

5. On motion, invited Ministering brethren to take seats, when brother A. Yarbrough came forward.

6. On motion, appointed bros. Wm. Owen, S. Newsom, with the delegates of the church, a committee to arrange preaching with Elder A. Kinney during the term.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow 9 o'clock. Prayer by the Moderator.

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SATURDAY MORNING, August 24.

1. On motion, called on Committee of Arrangements to report. Report received and committee continued.

2. On motion, invited Ministering brethren from sister Associations, when Elder Crutchfield came forward, from Sandy Creek, and Elder R. Gourly, from Bulah, and was cordially received by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship.

3. On motion, appointed brethren A. Yarbrough and John Teague, on Sabbath Schools.

4. *On Baptist State Convention*—Elders William Turner and Wm. H. Hamner.

5. *On Bible Publications, Periodicals*—Elders E. Crutchfield and Robert Gourly.

6. *On Colportage*—Wm. R. Coggin, Aquilla Jones.

On Temperance—J. H. Owen, Ebenezer Merrell.

7. *On Church Letters*—H. Laugenour and brother Peter Riley.

8. *On Southern Theological Seminary*—Brethren Charles Teague, Wm. H. Hudson and J. B. Jackson, chairman.

9. *On Ministerial Support*—Sampson Newsom, W. Owen and E. H. Davis.

10. *On Education*—Elder Wm. Turner and J. H. Owen.

11. *On Resolutions*—Wm. H. Hamner and R. S. Green.

12. On motion, called for the circular letter, the brother appointed not being present and no letter received from him.

13. Called on correspondent brethren to report, appointed to sister Associations. Elder Wm. Turner attended the Yadkin Association with brother John Teague, and give an interesting account of that body. Brother John Teague attended the Bulah Association, and gave an interesting account of that body, being well pleased with his visit.

14. On motion, appointed corresponding brethren to sister Associations: To Yadkin Association, to commence on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in October; Elder A. Williams, Wm. R. Coggin, S. H. Laugenour, Charles Teague, to Sandy Creek, to commence Friday before the 1st Sabbath in October; Elder Wm. Turner and brethren Wm. J. Hudson, John Hudson, A. Yarbrough and Elder Wm. H. Hamner, to the Pedee on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in October, held at the Dover church; brethren A. Kinney, Eli Davis and Enoch Davis, to the Bulah Association, to commence on Friday before the 2d Sunday in August, 1862, to be held at Bulah Church, eight miles East of Yanceyville; brethren Wm. Owen, J. H. Owen, Aquilla Jones, A. Yarbrough, John Teague, Elder Wm. Turner and J. B. Jackson.

15. On motion of brother J. H. Owen, the Association

agreed to hold the next annual meeting of this body with the Abbott's Creek Church, near Brown Town, to commence on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in August, 1862.

16. On motion, appointed Elder Wm. Turner to preach the introductory sermon, Elder J. B. Jackson his alternate.

17. On motion, called on delegates to the convention to report. Elder Wm. Turner and Aquilla Jones both attended, with brother J. W. Craven, and gave an interesting account of the convention with their satisfaction in attending the same.

18. On motion, the Association gave way to the Bible Society to meet, at two o'clock, P. M.

19. On motion, agreed to appoint to the committee to arrange preaching during the Sabbath.

20. On motion, called off until 2 o'clock P. M. Prayer by Elder Wm. Turner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Resumed business.

1. On motion called on Committee of Finance to report; committee reported that they had received from the churches $22 25; report received and committee discharged.

2. On motion, agreed that the collection to be taken up on Sabbath, be distributed for the use of buying Testaments for the soldiers.

3. On motion, adjourned until Monday morning 9 o'clock. Benediction by the Moderator.

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SABBATH.

The Ministers appointed to occupy the stand, met at 10 o'clock. Elder E. Crutchfield addressed the congregation from Matthew 11 chap. 28, 29, 30th verses: Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden light.

At 1½ o'clock, by Elder J. B. Jackson, from Psalms 91 and 4th verse: He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under

his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

At 3 o'clock the audience were addressed by Elder Wm. Turner, from John, 5th chap. and 24th verse: Verily, verily I say unto you, he that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. All of which seemed to be interesting and edifying. As the audience was large and well behaved, no running to and from, but such as becometh any congregation to patronize.

After the 11 o'clock sermon there was a public collection taken up, amounting to $29 73, to buy testaments and bibles for our soldiers now in the army; money paid over to the Treasurer.

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MONDAY MORNING, August 26, 1861.

1. The Association met according to adjournment, after religious services by the Moderator, and prayer by Elder A. Williams, the Association proceeded to business.

2. On motion, called on the various committees to report.

3. On motion, the committee on Bibles, Publications and Periodicals, called on to report, and after interesting remarks made by brethren, the report was received and committee discharged. (See A.)

4. Treasurer reported the Associational funds for last year to be..... $32 05

Contra,

For Printing Minutes for 1860,..... ...	$25 00	
The allowance to the Treasurer,.....	5 00	
For postage paid, &c.,.....	25	
		30 25
Remains on hand,		$1 80

5. On motion, the committee on Ministerial, and committee on Convention and on Education, all given longer time to report, and the Clerk examine said reports, &c.

6. The committee on Colportage reported; report received and committee discharged. (See B.)

7. On Church Letters reported; report received and committee discharged. (See C.)

8. Report on temperance received after interesting remarks and committee discharged. (D.)

9. The report on resolutions, after remarks from several brethren, received, and committee discharged. (E.)

10. The report on Sabbath Schools received, and committee discharged. (See F.)

11. *Resolved*, That this Association return its thanks to the community and friends about Lick Creek Church, for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained the Association during its session.

12. On motion, the delegates proceeded to make up the balance of the Associational fund in the following manner viz:

Lick Creek, by her delegates,	$ 50	Big Creek,	"	"	25
Jersey Church, " "	1 00	Pine M. House,	"	"	20
Abbott's " " "	50	Reeds ✕ Roads, by W. H. Hamner,			1 00
Tom's Creek, " "	20	Marion,			35
High Point " "	00	Salisbury,			10
Liberty, " "	50	Thomasville,			50
Holloway's, " "	50				
New Friendship, " "	90				$6 50

13. On motion, appoint the Clerk to superintend printing the Minutes, (500) and distribute as usual.

14. On motion, appoint J. B. Jackson, Wm. Owen, Wm. H. Hamner and A. Williams, a committee to purchase testaments for the soldiers, and report their proceedings to the next annual meeting of this body; A. Williams act as Treasurer, for said committee.

15. On motion, appointed Wm. H. Hamner a delegate to the Baptist State Convention.

16. On motion, this Association adjourn until the time and place. Prayer by Elder Wm. H. Hamner; Benediction by the Moderator.

J. B. JACKSON, Moderator.

AZARIAH WILLIAMS, Clerk.

REPORT ON BIBLES, PUBLICATIONS AND PERIODICALS.—(A)

Your committee on Bibles, Publications and Periodicals, beg leave to report: The bible is the greatest of books, for it is Gods word, therefore it should be read and studied prayerfully. We should suffer no other book to take its place. Other books may give much good instruction, and may be read as helps to the bible, but not in its place. Therefore, we would recommend to our brethren to read and circulate them.

The Biblical Recorder is now in a hard struggle whether it shall stand or fall. Brethren it is our paper, and will we let it go down if we wish it to live? Let us come to its support. Brethren it is too late to give medicine when the patient is dead. The Journal is in like condition, and unless we come to its help it will die. Therefore let us sustain these papers.

R. GOURLY,
E. CRUTCHFIELD. } Com.

REPORT ON COLPORTAGE.—(B)

Dear Brethren: In view of the rapid spread of error now existing, your committee would recommend this body to employ every means in its power, for the purchase and distribution of religious literature, by employing a colporture or purchasing books of the Southern publications.

Dear brethren, your committee would recommend that if this Association should fail in procuring a colporture, that books be purchased for circulation and placed in the hands of pastors and other ministers who travel and consequently have a better opportunity to visit the mass of the people.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. COGGIN, Chair'n.

REPORT ON CHURCH LETTERS.—(C.)

Your committee regret that it appears that religious inter-

est is at rather a low ebb within our bounds. That instead of the wilderness blossoming as the rose, blight and mildew prevails. How sad, that we cannot report great increase and prosperity among the churches. In view of this fact, let us be humbled before God, and while civil commotion is resulting in the destruction of the lives of our fellow-beings, let us be more faithful in the discharge of our religious duties, that we may be the instruments through Divine assistance in the building up of our beloved Zion, in the advancement of our Redeemer's kingdom upon earth.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. LAUGENOUR, Chair'n.

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REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.—(D.)

Your committee on Temperance desire to submit the following: Notwithstanding the cause of Temperance is every where admitted to be of great importance, yet it is still too much neglected. Why this is so is a mystery beyond our comprehension. We see on every side the baneful effects of the indulgence in strong drink, yet we fold our arms, shut our eyes, and seem content to leave our youths exposed to the temptations that surround them. Added to all of this, we fear that there are yet in our midst, those who are disposed to traffic with the young, by countenancing the moderate use of strong drink, and even putting to their mouths the bottle. Thus learning them to love what will ruin them, thereby aiding in the destruction of their own and other children. Dear brethren, could we fully see how much the cause of Christ has bled in consequence of our giving so loose a reign to the gratification of their desire to drink, surely we would more than ever discountenance it. In our opinion, much more harm has resulted from christians drinking than drunkards, because the youthful world looks on the conduct of a church member as right, and a drunkard wrong, and while they are following the one, they become the other. We therefore, suggest that our efforts in favor of temperance be more united.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. OWEN, Chair'n.

REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS.—(E.)

Your committee beg leave to report: *Resolved*, That we, as Baptists, do recommend to the churches, that they use all diligence to keep the doctrines of the Bible pure, and to keep and teach the same in all the ordinances as is found therein, and that we do not recognize any as the church of Christ, that depart from them in word or practice. And for that purpose do recommend the reading of those books and periodicals, such as the Biblical Recorder and Tennessee Baptist.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. HAMNER, Chair'n.

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REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.—(F.)

Dear Brethren: Your committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report: That they highly recommend the Sabbath school, believing it to be the means of religious instruction for the young and rising generation. Dear brethren, if we would have our children, and the children throughout the Association, instructed in the Sabbath school, let us put our shoulders to the wheel and do something more than talk.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. YARBROUGH, Chair'n.

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REPORT ON MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

Your committee regard this as a subject of great importance. Sinners are justified by faith, which "cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. How shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent?"

Though there has been great improvement in many of our churches, in reference to this matter, yet we have reason to fear that generally, it is too much neglected. Who that is a scripture reader, can doubt that it is there plainly taught, that those who preach the gospel shall be supported, either by those to whom they preach, or by the churches which send them forth? As a proof, your attention is directed to 1st. Corinthians, 9th chapter; also Paul's epistle to the Philippians, 4th chapter, from 10th to 20th verses. But we need not urge this point; surely it is plain to all. But if this duty has

been neglected, there is fault somewhere. There can be no doubt, that in a measure, the fault is with the Ministry; they have not taught this duty as plainly and affectionately as they should; but it is not altogether the duty of Ministers to press this matter; it is a business, mainly, of the churches, (see quotations above) and there are officers in the churches, viz: Deacons. Let Deacons, then, remember that this is a part of of their duty, not to sustain the Ministry themselves, entirely, but to lay the claims of the poor, sacrificing, toiling, Minister, either publicly or privately, before the membership earnestly yet kindly, and solicit aid according as God hath prospered them. If this is done, talents that are now lying hid, will be brought into active service, and the thirsty land will have springs of water. How can we rightly pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers, while we neglect our duty in supporting them. Like one of old, our prayers and alms should go up together.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. OWEN, Chair'n.

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REPORT ON THE BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

The objects of the Convention are four, viz: State Missions, foreign Missions, the education of poor young men who are called of God and approved by their churches to the work of the gospel Ministry, and Colportage. When we look around us and think of the destitution in our midst, and then cast our eyes in the heathen land, and remember that there are millions of our race in darkness and are destitute of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and that the world is the field in which we are required to labor, we cannot but see and feel the importance of sustaining the Board of the Convention in its operations in disseminating the truth. Let us not fail to be represented, as a body, in the Convention, and we do recommend the churches in future, to send up to the Association funds for that purpose, so as to enable the Association to send her delegates to the convention.

WM. TURNER, Chair'n.

REPORT ON THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Greenville, S. C., has been erected by and through the prayers and liberality of the great Baptist family South, for the purpose of giving to the young ministers an opportunity of pursuing a Theological course, in order that they may be more useful. Before we had such an institution, some of our ministers had to go to Pedobaptist schools, and thereby the Baptist had too much of the Pedobaptist Theology in their pulpits, but now our ministers may go to our own school and be taught by Baptist who understand the principles and practices of the Baptist; to such a school we would advise the young minister to go and put on the theological armor, then enter the field.

J. B. JACKSON, Chair'n.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY.

SATURDAY, 2 O'CLOCK.

The society met according to adjournment. After remarks by Elder J. B. Jackson, the Treasurer was called on to report, when the following was submitted.

Since our last meeting, there has been but little done by your Treasurer. The funds have not been applied in any way during the last year. The amount is the following:

For last years membership,.....	$19 00
For Bibles sold last year,.....	8 30
	$27 30

There were seven bibles and three testaments given away. There are thirteen bibles and one testament yet in the hands of Pastors not accounted for, and balance yet in my hands.

After which the following officers were elected:

Elder Azariah Williams, President.
Brother Isaac Kinney, 1st Vice President.
" Isaac A. Park, 2d " "
Elder Wm. Turner, 3d " "
J. H. Owen, Secretary and Treasurer.

The following names were then received as life members: Elders Wm. H. Hamner and J. B. Jackson.

ANNUAL MEMBERS.

Brethren S. H. Laugenour,	Acquilla Jones,
W. R. Coggin,	Miss S. E. Jones,
Abram Redwine,	Edward Burage,
C. A. Owen,	Joseph Carrick,
Wm. P. Redwine,	Jacob Sechrist,
W. F. Stoner,	Michael Redwine.
G. F. Smith,	

Funds on hand,.....	$27 30
Received this meeting,.....	7 50
Private individual,.....	10
Total,.....	$34 90

FORMER LIFE MEMBERS.

Elders Azariah Williams,	Brethren J. A. Park,
" Wm. Turner,	" Wm. H. Wiseman,
" Benjamin Lanier,	" Isaac Kinney,

Alexander Delap and Catherine, his wife.

On motion, adjourned to meet with the Liberty Association at its next meeting on Saturday.

AZARIAH WILLIAMS, Pres't.

J. H. OWEN, Sec'y.

TABULAR VIEW OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST OFFICES.	BY WHOM SUPPLIED.	DELEGATES NAMES.	Home Missions.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dism'd by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	White Males.	White Females.	Colored Males.	Colored Females.	Total Number.	Funds.	Church Meetings.
Lick Creek,	Davidson,	Jackson Hill,	A. Kinney,	W. Carrick, James Adderton, W. R. Coggin,								26	52	2	1	80	2 00	4
Jersey,	"	Cotton Grove	W. Turner,	W. Owen, E Merrell, J. T. Yarbrough,		17	1			2	3	40	83	20	3	326	3 00	4
Abbots Creek	"	Abbotts Creek,	No supply,	W. Clinard, John Teague, Charles Teague,		1						18	51	1	1	71	2 00	3
Tom's Creek	"	Healing Spring	B. Lanier,	P. Rily, S. Newsom, Simeon Sheets,								7			1	18	1 00	2
High Point,	Guilford,	High Point,	J. B. Jackson	*J. Welch, A. C. Jones, Jesse T. Elliott,								4	19			23	1 00	4
Liberty,	Davidson,	Fair Grove,	A. Williams,	H. Copple, J. S. Seachrist, Henry Forets,		3	2					16	35		1	52	2 00	1
Holloway,	"	Silver Hill,	A Kinney,	W. F. Stoner, Charles Smith, W. Gallimore,	16 00	5	2				2	*42		17		59	1 50	2
N Friendship	Forsythe,	Waugh Town,	W. Turner,	R J Charles, M L Charles, S H Laugenour,							1	25	50		1	76	2 75	2
Big Creek,	Montgomery,	Wind Hill,	A. Kinney.	Eli Davis, E. H. Davis, E i Coggin.							1					45		
P. M. House,	Davidson,	Lexington,	A. Williams,	J. Barnes, Henry C. Coment, Wm. Simerson,		6					1	4	7			11	1 00	4
Reeds x Road	"	"	J. B. Jackson	J. H. Owen, J. A. Park, J. W. Craven,					1		2	25	37	1	2	65	2 50	2
Marion,	"	"	A. Williams,	R. S. Green, Jacob Seachrist,								2	5	2	1	10	50	3
Salisbury,	Rowan,	Salisbury,	No supply,	A. J. Ruth. J. H. Fesperman,		1										59	1 50	3
Thomasville.	Davidson.	Thomasville.	J. B. Jackson	A. Jones, J. B. Jackson, W. J. Hudson.	4 50		4				1	9	10		1	20	1 50	4
				Total	20 50	33	9		1	2	11	222	349			915	22 25	
																	6 50	
																	1 80	
																Total Amount,	$30 55	

*NOTE.—Some of the churches not having made a separation between their Males, white, colored, and also Females, the table cannot be given correct, only as to the total amount.

By the Delegates,
In Treasurers hands,

A LIST OF ORDAINED PREACHERS IN THIS ASSOCIATION.

Alfred Kinney and Wm. N. Herriford, of Lick Creek; Benjamin Lanier, Tom's Creek; Azariah Williams and Wm. H. Hamner, of Reed's X Roads; Wm. Turner, of New Friendship; Wm. Lambeth, of Salisbury; J. B. Jackson, of Thomasville.

LICENTIATES.—G. M. Tussey, Aaron Yarbrough, John A Cornish, of Reed's Cross Roads; William R. Coggin of Lick Creek.

THE FLOWERS COLLECTION

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTIETH SESSION

OF THE

Liberty Baptist Association,

HELD AT

ABBOTT'S CREEK MEETING HOUSE,

Davidson County, N. C.

AUGUST 22D, 23RD AND 25TH, 1862.

MINUTES.

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The members of the Liberty Association met acccording to adjournment. The introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder Jones, from Psalm cxvi, 12: "What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits towards me." Brother Turner being unwell.

1. After a short intermission, the members met again. The Association was called to order by the former Moderator. Letters handed in; contents noted. (See last page.)

2. The Delegates proceeded to elect a Moderator for the present term, which resulted in the election of J. B. Jackson.

3. On motion, gave invitation to newly constituted Churches to come forward and hand in their letters. None presented.

4. Gave invitation to Correspondents from Sister Associations. Elder R Goally, E. Oaks, P. Olliver, from Beulah; Elder Jones, from the Yadkin; Bro. Parker, Bro. Phillips, from Pedee; Elder Cobb, as representing Colporteur, for the Army; Bro. William R. Trawick, as Collecting Agent for Army Colporteur, from Central Association. All of whom, was cordially received.

5. On motion of Bro. Wm. Turner, we appoint the Delegates of Abbott's Church with Deacons, a Committee to arrange preaching during the Session

6. On motion, appointed Bros. John Teague, Jacob Seachrist, A. Palmer with Moderator and Clerk, a Committee of Arrangements.

On motion, appointed Bros. Wm. H. Hamner, J. Welch, a Committee of Finance.

On motion of Bro. Howell, we set apart a half hour every day in the morning for prayer meeting.

On motion, adjourn until Saturday morning, 10 o'clock, A. M. Prayer by Elder Trawick. Bendiction by the Moderator.

Saturday Morning, 10 o'clock.

Met according to previous adjournment.

After some excellent remarks by the Moderator, and prayer by Elder Cobb, proceeded to business.

1. On motion, invitation extended to Corresponding Bros. P. W. Marshal, T. J. Valentine, of the Beulah, and Elders A. Weaver and E. Crutchfield, from Sandy Creek Association; and Elder Moses Baldwin, as Ministering Brother. All of which was cordially received.

2. On motion, called on Committee of Arrangements to report. Report received and Committee continued.

3. On motion, set apart immediately after intermission, the opportunity to

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Elders Cobb and Trawick, an opportunity to address this body on Colporteuage.

4. On motion, appointed Bro. J. A. Cornish, Elder Wm. H. Hamner. Jno. Teague, R. Y. Charles, Correspondents to the Yadkin Association, held at the Flat Rock, to commence on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in October. To the Pedee Association, to commence on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in October, Jacob Redwine, W. P. Redwine. To the Beulah, A. Spurgen, A. Jones, Elder John A. Cornish, to be held at Madison, on Friday before the second Sabbath in August, 1863. To the Sandy Creek, S. Howerton, J. B. Jackson, A. Williams, at Brush Creek, in Chatham county, including the first Sabbath in October.

5. On motion, agreed to appoint Corresponding brethren to the Pamlico Association, and also to Correspond by Minutes.

6. On motion, called on Corresponding brothers to Sister Associations to report. Elder J. B. Jackson reported that he attended the Beulah, and gave an interesting account of that body. Most of the brothers did not attend, and were excused. Elder William H. Hamner reported that he attended the Baptist State Convention, and was cordially received. Had an interesting meeting.

7. On motion, extend the time of Treasurer to report.

8. On motion, appoint the several Committees on Sabbath Schools. Elders William Turner, J. Cornish. On Periodicals, William H. Hamner, John Teague. On Colporteurage, Bro. John Teague. On Temperance, Elder Wm. Lambeth, A. Weaver. On Baptist State Convention, William Turner. On Education, Elder M. Baldwin. On Church Letters and Southern Theological Seminary, J. B. Jackson. On Ministerial support, A. C. Jones, R. J. Charles. On Resolutions, Elder William Lambeth.

On motion, appointed Bro. S. Howerton to write a Circular Letter, to be attached to the Minutes of 1863.

On motion, took recess for one hour. Benediction by the Moderator.

RESUMED BUSINESS.

On motion, agreed to give to Bro. Cobb the money on hand for Testaments, $12 50, for the use of the Soldiers in general.

On motion, we appoint the next annual meeting of this body, to be held at Thomasville, to commence on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in August, 1863. Appointed Elder William Turner to preach the Introductory Sermon. Elder J. B. Jackson his alternate.

On motion, adjourn until Monday morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer and Benediction by the Moderator.

SABBATH.

The Ministers appointed to occupy the stand met at 10 o'clock. Elder F. H. Jones addressed the congregation from Exodus, xxxii chapter, 26th verse, "Then Moses stood in the gate and said, who is on the Lord's side." At 12 o'clock, by Elder A. Weaver, from Romans viii chap. 33, 34 verses.

At 3 o'clock, the audience was addressed by Elder E. Crutchfield, from 1st

Cor. xv chapter, 56th, 57th verses. All of which was interesting and edifying, and the congregation was well behaved. After the second Sermon, there was a collection taken up for the use of the Soldiers, Colporteurage and Testaments, which will appear in another place on Minutes.

Monday Morning, August 25, 1862.

1. The Association met according to adjournment, after religious services by Elder Turner and prayer by Elder Trawick.

2. On motion, elected Elder William Turner Moderator pro tem., to act in absence of the Moderator.

On motion, Treasurer reported. Report received.

3. On motion, called on Committee on Sabbath Schools to report. Reported, and after interesting remarks by Elders Trawick, Crutchfield and Cornish, was adopted.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee is of the opinion, that the Sabbath School enterprise is not as much encouraged among us as it should be. But we are glad to know that there is *one* well regulated Sabbath School in operation, in one of the churches composing this Association. We would say to our brethren, that it is due to ourselves—to the rising generation, and to the cause of Christ, that a Sabbath School, if possible, should be carried on in each church. A field that is so abundantly fruitful, should not be so neglected.

WM. TURNER, *Chairman.*

4. Committee on Finance, reported that they had received from the churches and individuals, $24 05. Report received and Committee discharged.

Report on Baptist State Convention. Report adopted and Committee discharged.

REPORT ON N. C. BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

The objects of the Convention are four, viz: State Missions. Foreign Missions, Education and Colportage. Through the Convention, our efforts can be united, and applied, and great good will result. Therefore,

Resolved, That we encourage the churches, composing this Association, to support heartily, the Convention, both by their prayers and contributions.

WM. TURNER, *Chairman.*

Committee on Church Letters reported. Report adopted and Committee discharged.

REPORT ON CHURCH LETTERS.

Your Committee have to lament that the state of religion, in our bounds, continues low—too low in most of our Churches. Only one of them, Liberty, having been greatly revived during the past year. But while this is so, and while there is reason to fear that our people are in great danger, from worldly influence, it is a cause of devout thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church, that our churches are greatly maintaining the stated worship of God, and are at peace among themselves. There are no letters from Salisbury nor Big Creek, nor Read's Cross Roads. Your Committee would suggest that these Churches be visited and their condition enquired into. We also find that only one Church (Thomasville) keeps up a Sabbath School. All of which is respectfully submitted. WM. H. HAMNER, *Ch'n.*

On motion, adopted that the report of the death of Bro. Kinney be spread on Minutes.

5. On motion, appoint the Bro. Clerk to superintend printing Minutes, the usual number, (500,) and distribute.

6. On motion, the report on Ministerial Support was adopted after remarks, and Committee discharged.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

Your Committee regard this as a subject of great importance. Sinners are justified by faith, which cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God; how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent.

Your Committee regret very much to say that this subject has by no means had the attention its importance demands.

Therefore, we recommend the churches to be more prompt in their duty of supporting their pastors; that the deacons, at suitable times, lay before the congregations the claims of their pastor; that his hands may be untied from the world; that he may study to show himself an approved workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, giving each his portion in due season. We all may do something. Let every one exert his influence in behalf of Ministerial support, and God will bless them in so doing.

Respecrfully submitted, A. C. JONES, *Ch'n.*

7. On motion, the report on Periodicals, after remarks by Elders Trawick, Cobb and Crutchfield, was adopted and Committee discharged.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

Your Committee beg leave to report that the Bible is the best Book he can recommend; indeed, it is the Book of Books; and that the Biblical Recorder is an excellent family paper, and would recommend it to the Baptist and friends as one among the best denominational papers in the State. All of which is submitted. WM. H. HAMNER, *Ch'n.*

8. The Rerport on Colportage was adopted, and Committee discharged.

REPORT ON COLPORTAGE.

Army Colportage is a work which commends itself not only to the christian, but to every patriot in the Confederate States.

If our soldiers are exposed to the vice of the contaminating influence of camp life, and bless and not curse this Country, when they return home, it must be the influence of religious instruction, and no enterprise promises more for this than Colportage; and we are pleased to see the Churches and individuals, with cheerfulness, respond to the call, that have been made upon them for this object. But we deem it highly important that North Carolina should have a Colportage system of her own, and should supply all the soldiers within her own borders, and all soldiers within the borders of other States, through her own Colporteurs and superintendents, by having her own superintendents, and doing her own work through him, she will not only reach their soldiers, but she will have a permanent organization to work with when the war is over. Therefore,

Resolved, That we heartily commend Elder N. B. Cobb, as a Superintendent of Army Colportage for North Carolina, and pledge to him our sympathies, prayers and contributions for this cause.

Respectfully submitted, JOHN TEAGUE, *Ch'n.*

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Temperance, respectfully submit the following:

Dear Brethren:—This question seems to present itself: Can a man live a consistent church member and tolerate the use of ardent spirits as a beverage or dram drinking? We think it quite improbable that a person could habitually use ardent spirits, as a beverage, and yet retain his christian character. First, because we do believe, from what we have seen and heard amongst men, that there are but few, even amongst drinking men, that do not feel that drinking of ardent spirits is a moral evil. If this is true, then how far should every christian man stay away from the monster intemperance. He should neither taste, touch nor handle it. For intemperance has done more harm to the church and the world, than any other sin known among men. This should cause every christian heart to ache, when they see how intemperance is standing in the way and preventing the spread of the Gospel. If this be so, can a man be a dram drinker and a christian at the same time? No such a man cannot exhibit all the excellence of the Gospel. Dear brethren, let us pray and labor that the time may soon come when all christians will live soberly and godly in this evil world.

Respectfully submitted, WM. LAMBETH, *Ch'n.*

9. On motion, the Moderator appointed Delegates to the Baptist State Convention, consisting of the following brethren:

Aquilla Jones, A. C. Jones, J. B. Jackson, S. Howerton, John A. Cornish, J. H. Owen, William H. Hamner, John Teague, A. R. Spurgen, Jonathan Welch, William Clinard, S. H. Laugnour, William Turner, A. Yarbrough, A. Williams, W. R. Redwine.

10. The Association then proceeded to make up the deficiency for printing the Minutes by the brethren and friends.

William H. Hamner	50	cts.
N. B. Cobb	50	"
High Point, A. C. Jones	50	"
Elder Trawick	50	"
John Teague	25	"
Eliza Spurgen	10	"
William H. Simeson, P. M. House	50	"
Mary Charles	10	"
Elizabeth Hedgcock	20	"
S. H. Laugnour, New Friendship	50	"
Rebecca Jones	20	"
A. Teague	45	"
M. Croch	20	"
Mary Boalenhamer	50	"
Margaret Wagoner	25	"
Milton Raper	25	"
Martin L. Charles	25	"
Jane Horney	25	"
Ecline Ruth	10	"
Amos Weaver	25	"
F. H. Jones	50	"
J. S. Raper	$1.00	
W. P. Raper,	50	cts.
Jacob Seachrist, Marion	25	"
	$8 35	

On motion, the Treasurer reported that he had received from the Churches and the Association,..... $30 55

CONTRA.

For Printing Minutes.....	$25 00	
Treasurer allowance.....	5 00	
Postage paid.....	15	
		$30 15
Remains on hand.....	40	

Received of Bro. A. Williams, Treasurer of the Liberty Association, one hundred and thirty-four dollars and thirty-five cents, contributed as follows:

For Army Colportage by the Jersey Church..	$26 05
New Friendship Church.....	5 50
Collection at the Association.....	90 30
By the Liberty Association Bible Society.....	12 50
Received also of J. H. Owen, Treasurer of Lib. Ass. Bible Society,	34 90
Total,	$169 25

N. B. COBB, Army Col. for N. C.

August 25th, 1862.

On motion, adopted the report of the death of Bro. Alfred Kinney, and ordered to be spread on the Minutes.

This Association having learned with deep sorrow, that since its last meeting Elder Alfred Kinney, a member, and for many years the pastor of Lick Creek Church, has passed from this to the General Assembly on High. As a token of the estimation of his worth, and a testimonial of our brotherly regard for the deceased, be it

Resolved, That in the death of Elder Kinney, the Church has lost an earnest and laborious Minister, and society an orderly and worthy citizen.

Resolved, That this Association tender to the bereaved family of our lamented brother, its heartfelt consolation, and that we do most earnestly commend them to the kind care of our Heavenly Father.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to sister Kinney, and that they be spread on the Minutes of this Association.

11. On motion, Resolved that this Association return its thanks to the community and friends about Abbott's Creek Church, for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained the Association during its sessions.

12. On motion, this Association adjourn until the time and place. Prayer by Elder Cobb. Benediction by Elder Wm. Turner.

J. B. JACKSON, *Moderator.*

AZARIAH WILLIAMS, *Clerk.*

TABULAR VIEW OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES	POST OFFICE.	BY WHOM SUPPLIED.	DELEGATES' NAMES.	Home Missions,...	Baptized, ...	Rec'd by Letter,	Restored, ...	Disn'd by Letter.	Excluded,.....	Deceased, ...	White Males.....	White Females,..	Colored Males,....	Colored Females,	Total Number,....	Funds,.....	Church Meetings,
Lick Creek,.....	Davidson, ...	Jackson Hill, ...	Wm. H. Hamner,.	Jacob Redwine, W. P. Redwine, Jas. Carrick,*	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	23	52	2	10	80	2 50	4
Jersey, ...	"	Cotton Grove, ...	Wm. Turner,.....	B B Smith,* J Roach, D Smith.*	..	..	..	..	1	...	5	40	80	86	116	326	2 35	1
Abbott's Creek,.	"	Abbott's Creek,..	J. Robeson, ...	P W Raper, W P Raper, John Teague, ...	..	12	1	..	..	1	2	16	51	1	1	69	2 75	3
Tom's Creek,.....	"	Healing Springs, .	B. Lanier	Peter Riley,* S Newsom,* Benjamin Lanier,.	..	4	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	75	2
High Point,.....	Guilford, ...	High Point, ...	S. W. Howerton,	S W Howerton, Abram C Jones, Jon. Welch,	..	..	2	..	1	...	1	4	21	...	...	25	2 00	4
Liberty, ...	Davidson, ...	Fair Grove, ...	A. Williams,.....	Wiley Parish,* Henry Copple,* T A May,*...	..	..	3	..	..	...	1	29	53	1	...	83	1 55	1
Holloway's, ...	"	Silver Hill,..	A. Yarbrough, ..	Abram Palmer, Chas Smith, F Beaublossom,*	..	32	..	..	..	...	2	...	...	...	...	48	1 50	2
New Friendship,.	Forsythe, ...	Waugh Town,...	Wm. Turner,.....	G W Hege, R J Charles, A R Surgin, ...	..	..	..	..	..	1	...	25	51	...	1	77	2 50	2
Big Creek, ...	Montgomery	Wind Hill, ...	.. ..	Not represented———By W R Coggin, ...	..	4	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	1 00	...
Pine M. House,...	Davidson, ...	Lexington, ...	A. Yarbrough, ...	John Barens,* Wm H Semeson, Moses Lamb,	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	4	7	...	...	11	1 20	1
Reed's ⋊ Roads,.	"	"	J. B. Jackson, ...	Alfred Wood,* Benj. Myers,* A R Craver,*...	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	25	37	1	2	65	3 00	2
Marion, ...	"	"	A. Williams,.....	Jacob Seachrist, A Williams, R S Green,*....	..	..	..	..	..	...	1	2	4	2	1	9	50	3
Salisbury, ...	Rowan, ...	Salisbury, ...	.....	Not represented, By Elder Wm. Lambeth.. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	...	...	...	...	...	59	1 00	3
Thomasville,.....	Davidsan, ...	Thomasville, ...	J. B. Jackson, ...	Wm J Hutson, J B Jackson, Aquilla Jones,....	..	1	7	..	1	...	...	11	10	...	1	22	1 50	1
					...	52	13	...	3	4	14	179	356	93	172	938	2405	...
																	8.35	

Delegates marked thus * not present.

Remaining on hand, 40

$32.80

A list of Ordained Preachers in this Association : Wm. N. Herriford, of Lick Creek ; Benjamin Lanier, of Tom's Creek ; Azariah Williams, Wm. H. Hamner, Aaron Yarbrough, and John A. Cornish, of Reed's ⋊ Roads, Wm. Turner, N. Friendship, Wm. Lambeth of Salisbury, J. B. Jackson and S. W. Howerton, of Thomasville.

Licentiates : G. M. Tussey, of Reed's ⋊ Roads.

THE FLOWERS COLLECTION

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Liberty Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

THOMASVILLE, DAVIDSON CO., N. C.

August 21--24, 1863.

RALEIGH:

PRINTED AT THE BIBLICAL RECORDER OFFICE.

1864.

Proceedings.

August 21st.

The delegates assembled; and in the absence of Elder W. Turner, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder T. W. Tobey from Psalm 42: 11.

After a short intermission the Association was called to order by the former Moderator. The letters were read and Elder J. B. Jackson was elected Moderator for the ensuing year. The pastors, deacons and delegates of the church, with Elder S. W. Howerton were appointed a committee on religious exercises.

Invitations to visiting brethren were accepted by brethren James Poteat and D. H. Lapish from the Beulah Association; Elder A. Weaver from the Sandy Creek; Elder R. Devin and Elder Bessent from the Yadkin; E. L. Parker from the Pee Dee; Elder Camp from the Pamlico; Elder Tobey agent of the Domestic Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Brethren J. A. Cornish, A. Yarbrough, W. Hamner and W. Turner with the Moderator and Clerk were appointed a committee of arrangements.

The following committees were appointed: on Sabbath Schools, Elder Howerton; on Baptist State Convention, Elder Turner; on Church Letters, Wm. H. Hamner; on Ministerial Support, J. H Owen; on Periodicals, J. A. Cornish; on Colportage, J. B. Jackson; on Temperance, R. Charles; on Domestic Missions Elders Tobey and Lambeth.

Elder Turner and Bro. Jno. Teague had attended the meeting of the Yadkin Association according to appointment. The delegates to other Associations had failed to attend.

J. A. Cornish, A. Yarbrough, H. Parker, J. H. Owen and J. B. Jackson were appointed delegates to the Yadkin Asso-

ciation; to the Pee Dee, W. P. Redwine, Jacob Redwine and Wm H. Hamner; to the Beulah, Wm. Turner and Jno. Teague; to the Sandy Creek, A. Williams and R. J. Charles; to the Pamlico, J. B Jackson and S. Howerton.

On motion, adjourned until Saturday morning 10 o'clock, A. M. Prayer by Elder R. I. Devin.

SATURDAY MORNING, 10 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder Dodson.

Invitations to visiting brethren were accepted by Elders Dodson and Goudey, from the Beulah Association and Elder E. L. Phillips, from the Pee Dee.

Elder A. Williams was appointed clerk for the present term.

On motion, Elder W. Lambeth was received as a representative from the church in Salisbury.

The committee on Sabbath Schools reported as follows;

Whereas, We believe the Sabbath School to be a field of usefulness which can not be neglected without incurring the displeasure of God and doing injury to the churches and the communities surrounding them, Therefore

Resolved, That we believe no pastor discharges his whole duty who does not exhaust every means in his power to organize and keep up Sabbath Schools in his churches.

Resolved, That the man claiming to be a christian who can, but will not engage in Sabbath School is living in great neglect of duty.

Resolved, That we bind ourselves to do all we can to organize and keep up a Sabbath School in each of our churches during the coming year.

S. HOWERTON, Chm'n.

The Association took a recess till 2 o'clock. Prayer by Elder Tobey.

AFTERNOON.

Prayer by Elder Cornish.

The committee on Periodicals reported as follows:

We recommend the *Biblical Recorder*, our own State organ

as worthy of a cordial support. Its moral and religious influence, its literary merits, its size and price make it worthy of a place in every Baptist family in North Carolina. We recommend that our brethren and especially our ministers do what they can to extend its circulation. We aiso recommend the *Child's Index*, published in Macon Ga.

J. A. CORNISH, Chm'n.

The committee on Domestic Missions reported as follows:

The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention located at Marion, Ala., was formed for the purpose of sending the gospel to the destitute portions of our own country. The Missions to the Indians were also placed under its charge. Previous to the horrid war now raging, this Board had in its employment many missionaries who were laboring successfully in our own country and in the Indian Territory. After the commencement of hostilities on the part of the United States the Board was unable to carry on its legitimate work. The attention of its members was directed to the condition of the soldiers in the army of the Confederate States, and it was resolved to put forth efforts to extend to them the glad tidings of salvation. Most of the missionaries to the Indians are still in the employ of the Board laboring among the soldiers as they may find opportunity.

There are now more than thirty missionaries laboring among the soldiers in the various portions of our Confederacy. The reports which from time to time they send up, are of a very interesting character. The blessing of the Most High seems to rest upon the enterprise. It has also found favor with the churches. They give cheerfully and liberally for its advancement. More than one thousand dollars have recently been contributed for this object by the churches in Caswell and Rockingham counties. For the spiritual benefit of the soldiers in our army the churches of the Beulah Association have given more than two thousand dollars during the past Associational year. It is to be hoped that the members of the Liberty Association will imitate this praiseworthy example.

Pending the motion for its adoption Elder Tobey delivered an address in behalf of the cause.

On, motion, it was decided to take up a collection in both churches at 11 o'clock to-morrow, the proceeds to be divided between the Domestic Mission Board and the cause of Army colportage among the North Carolina Troops.

The committee on the Baptist State Convention reported as follows:

Resolved, That we advise the churches of this Association heartily to sustain the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in its efforts to extend the Redeemer's kingdom.

W. TURNER, Chm'n.

The committee on Army Colportage reported as follows:

Army Colportage should engage the heart and soul of every christian in the land. Therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend it to the hearty support of the members of this Association.

J. B. JACKSON, Chm'n.

The financial committee reported as follows:

Received from the churches,	$58 75
Contributed to send the *Recorder* to the Soldiers,	62 85
Remaining in hands of the clerk from last year,	2 55
Total,	$124 15

Elder B. Lanier was appointed to preach the introductory sermon at the next session; Elder Hamner alternate.

On motion, the Moderator and Clerk were authorized to select the place for holding the next session, and the church or churches, desiring that it be held with them were requested to notify the above named officers.

On motion,

Resolved, That we recommend the churches to do what they can to furnish preaching to the destitute portions of the Association.

The committee on Ministerial Supply reported as follows:

As a general rule Ministers should live by the ministry. That is, those to whom they preach should support them. In consideration of the high prices of all the necessaries of life the salaries of pastors should be increased in a corresponding ratio. It is the imperative duty of the deacons to

see that their pastors are so sustained as to enable them to give themselves entirely to the work. It is certainly their duty to teach their congregations their obligations in this respect. But should they fail it will not excuse others for neglect of duty.

J. H. OWEN, Chm'n.

The committee on Temperance submitted the following:

Resolved, That we recommend our church-members not to use intoxicating liquors except for medical or mechanical purposes.

The committee on Church Letters read the following report:

Your committee regret that the letters report so few revivals among the churches during the past years. Only one instance of the kind is mentioned and that was confined principally to the colored people. What is the cause of this state of things? The arm of the Lord is not shortened, nor is his ear heavy. His word assures us that he is more ready to give good gifts than we are to ask; and he himself has told us that he will withhold no good thing from those that walk uprightly before him. The fault must be in us. Let us amend our ways. It is to be feared that inattention to our church-meetings is one of the causes of this sad state of things.

It is disheartening in the extreme to the pastor to ride eighteen or twenty miles and then find the seats of his members vacant. It may be said that they are all in the army; but if you enquire after them, you will find that there are many of them at home, detained as they say by business; and some are irregular in their attendance even on the Lord's day. This is unfaithfulness to our Redeemer. Let us try Him in the future and see if he will not open the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing.

W. H. HAMNER, Chm'n.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to the citizens of Thomasville for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained the delegates during their stay; also to our Methodist brethren for the use of their house of worship.

The Clerk was ordered to superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes.

The Treasurer reported as follows:

Received for minutes, with amount on hand,	$32 80
Paid for printing minutes,	25 00
Clerk's allowance,	5 00
Postage,	25
Remaining on hand,	2 55

On motion, adjourned till the time for the next annual session. Remarks by the Moderator.

Prayer by Elder Devin.

J. B. JACKSON, Mod'r.

AZARIAH WILLIAMS, *Clerk.*

N. B.—The place of meeting for next year will be advertized in the *Recorder.*

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

W. N. Hereford - -	Benjamin Lanier.
Azariah Williams, -	- W. H. Hamner.
Aaron Yarboro, - -	J. A. Cornish.
W. Lambeth, -	- W. Turner.
J. B. Jackson, - -	S. W. Howerton.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Rec'd by letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	Whites.	Colored.	Total.	Fund.	Association	Day of Meeting.	POST-OFFICE.
Lick Creek,.....	Davidson,....	W.H. Hamner,	P. W. Redwine, J. Redwine, J. Carrick,.....				3	76	3	79	5	00	4th S	Ja kson Hill,....
Jersey,.....	Davidson,....	W. Turner,...	Isaac Kinney, E. Merrell, C. Yarboro,.....	21	2		9	117	220	337	9	00	1st "	Cotton Grove,...
Abbot's Creek,...	Davidson,....	J. Robertson,	Jesse Jones, John Teague, W. Clenard,.....			1	2	60	2	62	4	00	3rd "	Abbott's Creek,..
Tom's Creek,.....	Davidson,....	B. Lanier,....	P. Riley, S. Sheets, Samson Newsom,.....					20	1	21	1	75	2nd "	Healing Springs,
High Point,.....	Guilford,.....	W.N.Hereford	A. C. Jones, J. Welch, B. Harris,			1	1	24		24	4	00	4th "	High Point,.....
Liberty,.....	Davidson,....	B. Lanier,....	W. Parrish, S. S. Lambeth, Henry Forets,.....			2	3	77	1	78	3	75	2nd "	Fair Grove,.....
Holloway's,.....	Davidson,....	A. Yarboro,..	Charles Smith, E. W. Smith, W. Gallimore.....				2			57	5	50	2nd "	Silver Hill,.....
New Friendship,..	Forsythe,.....	W. Turner,...	Alex. Delap, R. J. Charles, A. R. Spurgin, ...	4			3	76	2	78	7	60	2nd "	Waughtown,.....
Big Creek,.....	Montgomery,.	.....	Not represented.....							45				Wind Hill,.....
Pine M. House,...	Davidson,....	A. Yarboro,..	Moses Lamb, John Barnes, W H. Simpson,.....					11		1	2	75	4th "	Lexington,.....
Reed's X Roads,..	Davidson,....	J. B. Jackson,	J. H. Owen, M. Leonard, A R. Craver,.....			2	5	56	3	59	6	50	2nd "	Lexington,.....
Marion,.....	Davidson,....	A. Williams,.	Jno. Senchrist, R. S. Green, A. Williams,.....					6	3	9	2	50	3rd "	Lexington,.....
Salisbury,.....	Rowan,.....	.....	William Lambeth,.....					--	--	59	3	00	3rd "	Salisbury,.....
Thomasville,.....	Davidson,....	J. B. Jackson,	W.C.Jones, J. L.Keer, E. Liggon,		2			23	1	24	3	00	1st "	Thomasville,....
				25	4	4	28	548	236	842	58	85		

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the churches composing the Liberty Baptist Association:

Dear Brethren:—Our Saviour teaches us that the christian church is the light of the world. Now whatsoever maketh manifest is light. Men need light in darkness and as the density of the darkness is increased so is the necessity for the brilliancy and prominence of the light increased.

If you but look around you will be compelled to admit that now more than at any other time in your recollection darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people. The wicked are growing desperately bold and increasing in strength and numbers daily. The weeping and lamentation of the afflicted are echoing through the length and breadth of our land on account of the chastisement which God is visiting upon us as a reward of our wickedness. The young male members of our churches have by the call of duty been hurried to Camp and surrounded by the temptations of that corrupting life, many have forsaken their first love, many others have grown prayerless and lukewarm, many of the older brethren who have remained at home have not sustained a much higher standard of piety. There seems even in the churches to prevail to an alarming extent a spiritual dearth. Brethren shall we be disheartened at this state of things? Shall we yield because men are growing wicked and God is punishing us for our sins or because Satan has gained a few victories over our brethren and our selves and sleep because a dearth is reigning in the churches? Instead of basely yielding let us awake to our duties, put fresh oil into our lamps, trim them closely and hold them high and firmly, precisely at the right place, so that others seeing our good works may glorify our Father who is in heaven. Keep the love of Christ burning in your hearts, cultivating at the same time a love for

your brethren and enemies. Have regular stated prayer meetings, pray much for the out pouring of Gods spirit upon the churches and for the conversion of sinners and for those that have rule over you and are striving to gain your independence. The christian who does not find it in his heart to implore God's blessing upon his country in this her hour of peril need not expect that when peace shall come, as a christian, he can enjoy it. Take heed and beware of covetousness. It is a reproach to any man, much less a christian to grow rich while his country is bleeding at every vein. Let it not be said that an extortioner has a place in any of our churches. The increase in the demand for labor calls for an increase in your donations. The needy through the land if this war continues will cry at your gates for bread and should never be turned away empty. Be not among those who are desponding and doubting but trust in the Lord and in all your ways acknowledge him and he will not allow your enemies to triumph over you. Obey conscientiously and cheerfully every duty which your country imposes upon you, for the Bible tells us that the powers that be are ordained of God and whosoever resisteth them resisteth the ordinance of God. It is said that in the Revolution of 1776, there was not a traitor or tory in the Baptist churches in Virginia, or the Carolinas. Let us not be behind our Fathers, let us put our trust firmly in God and not fear even though the earth be removed or the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea. We, live by faith and it becomes us not to despond in dark hours. Let us in all things deport ourselves like christians especially in hours of adversity. Amen.

S. HOWERTON, Chm'n.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

At the last meeting of the Bible Society (the proceedings of which was either lost or mislaid by the printer of last year's minutes,) it was ordered that the funds and Bibles in the hands of the Treasurer be paid over to N. B. Cobb Superintendent of Army Colportage. After which the following officers were re-elected.

President.—Elder Azariah Williams.

Vice President.—1st, Isaac Kinney; 2nd, Isaac A. Park 3rd, Elder Wm. Turner.

Secretary and Treasurer.—J. H. Owen.

Life Members.—Elders Azariah Williams, Wm. Turner, Benjamin Lanier, J. B. Jackson and Brethren Isaac Kinney, Isaac A. Park, Wm H Wiseman, Alexander Delap and Catherine his wife and Wm. H. Hamner.

There have been no members received, since the funds were applied: Therefore there are no funds on hand except $1 25 arisising from sale of Bibles in the hands of a minister.

N. B.—The Society did not meet this year as usual at the Association.